

## House Resolution No. 322

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State residents who overcome economic or other adversities in the pursuit of their higher education through participation in the TRIO program established by the United States Congress in 1965; and

**Whereas**, Three Rivers Community College (TRCC) in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, wholeheartedly supports affiliation with TRIO as a way to ensure that low-income, first-generation college students and students with disabilities are successful in their quest for a college education; and

**Whereas**, TRIO programs nationwide annually celebrate TRIO Day by honoring alumni from their respective programs through awards presented to those outstanding students who have excelled academically and have persevered despite personal or family adversity; and

**Whereas**, Laura Milligan arrived at TRCC as the quintessential non-traditional student who had dropped out of high school to marry, returned to her studies to earn a G.E.D., ended up divorced at the age of nineteen with a young daughter to raise, and held a series of low-level factory jobs which ended due to lay-offs, company downsizing, or mergers; and

**Whereas**, after losing yet another job in 1997, Laura Milligan decided to "change her life" by enrolling in New Perspectives, a TRCC program which provides advising and financial assistance for displaced homemakers and non-traditional students, and in Student Support Services, where she eventually became a tutor; and

**Whereas**, Laura Milligan quickly adapted to college life, earned a Claudia Foundation scholarship, worked as a library aide, successfully ran for Student Senate and became Vice President her sophomore year, attained an excellent grade point average, and graduated with Honors and an Associate's degree before accepting employment as the college's Assistant Director of Financial Aid:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud Laura Milligan's achievements so far in life as an exemplary TRIO program alumna who has concretely transformed her educational dreams into reality; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Laura Milligan, TRIO Day award winner.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Gayle Kingery  
District No. 154

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 322, adopted February 11, 2003.

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Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker